17. Shri Satyavir Tyagi, Dainik Hindustan

18. Shri Manmohan Sharma, Hindustan Samachar

19. Shri Om Prakash Pandit, Hindustan Samachar

20. Shri Sharad Dwivedi, PTI Bhasha

21. Shri Ashok Sharma, Univarta

22. Shri Diwan Singh Mehta, Navbharat Times

23. Shri Madhusudan Sathe, Univarta

24. Shri Jagdish Prasad Chaturvedi, Deshbandhu

25. Shri Hira Lal Choubey, Daily Sanmarg, Calcutta

26. Shri Jagnnath Shastri, Daily Bhaskar, Bhopal

27. Shri Rajiv Pandey, Univarta.

28. Shri Ramji Prasad Singh, Hindustan Samachar.

29. Shri Rafiq Shastri, Univarta

30. Smt. Manuhari Pathak, Navjyoti, Ajmer

31. Shri Surendra Dwivedi, Hindustan Samachar

32. Shri Sunder Lal Kukreja, Dainik Hindustan.

3197. [*Transferred to the 1st December, 1986*].

General Amnesty for and rehabilitation of the Court-martialled defence personnel

3198. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 137 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1986 and state:

(a) whether the court-martial of army personnel following the Operation Blue Star in Punjab is over; if so, the total number of army personnel involved and the punishments awarded rank wise;

(b) what is the highest rank involved;

(c) what was the maximum punishment awarded;

(d) whether any of the personnel were released subsequently; if so, what is their number, rank-wise;

(e) whether any of the cases were reviewed; if so, the details thereof, giving rank-wise figures;

(f) whether any of the personnel were rehabilitated; if so what are their rank-wise figures; and

(g) whether Government propose to declare general amnesty and to rehabilitate all those involved; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) to (g) Consequent to Operation Blue Star, an insignificant proportion of Sikh troops serving in several units located throughout the country, committed mutiny, desertion and other offences including murder. The number involved against whom action was initiated is 2,337, all belonging to Other Ranks. No Officer or JCO deserted. An overwhelmingly large number demonstrated the loyalty and patriotism that have always been displayed by Sikh troops.

In addition, 393 personnel consisting of 65 Officers, 104 JCOs and 224 Other Ranks were proceeded against for other acts of indiscipline, such as failure of command, dereliction of duty etc.

Thus, a total of 2,730 personnel were tried by Courts Martial or summarily or administratively dealt with in accordance with the gravity of offences.

The requisite details are as under :—

	Officers	JCOs	OR	Total
(i) Total Nos involved in				
(a) desertion, mutiny etc.	—	—	2337	**2337**
(b) other acts of indiscipline, such as dereliction of duty in command.	65	104	224	**393**
TOTAL :	**65**	**104**	**2561**	**2730**
(ii) Total Nos tried by Courts Martial, summarily or administratively.	63	103	2560	**2726**
(iii) Total Nos. against whom disciplinary action is pending	2	1	1 (absconding)	**4**
(iv) Punishment awarded :				
(a) RI in Civil jail with dismissal.	—	6	270	**276**
(b) Dismissal/discharged	—	19	108	**127**
(c) Minor punishment/acquitted/exonerated	63	78	2151	**2292**
(d) Not retained in service on Medical grounds unwilling to serve	—	—	31	**31**
GRAND TOTAL	63	103	2560	**2726**

Out of the total of 2726 army personnel, against whom action has been completed, 2292 personnel have been retained in service after minor punishments or acquittal. This includes 211 recruits who were reinstated in Defence Security Corps, out of the 237 recruits who were discharged. 276 personnel involved in serious offences were committed to civil jails and dismissed from service. 127 personnel could not be retained in service for being found unsuitable for retention or due to lack of allegiance. 31 personnel were either found medically unfit or unwilling to serve. Highest rank involved was an officer of the rank of Brigadier who was awarded displeasure for dereliction of duties. Maximum punishment, i.e. life imprisonment and dismissal was awarded to two Other Ranks. 1995 Other Ranks who were awarded imprisonment have since been released on completion/remission of their sentences. In accordance with Army Act, 1950, each case has been considered on its merits and redressal granted, wherever feasible, with fairness and due leniency, keeping in view the emotional and psychological factors involved. Considering the nature of certain offences committed, no general amnesty to the persons involved can be considered.